

November 24, 2018

Dear Mr. Lavie and Mr. Hudio,

This letter is to update you regarding the Citizen Lab's ongoing research into the international deployment of NSO Group's Pegasus spyware. As you know, researchers including the Citizen Lab, journalists, NGOs, and others have repeatedly documented uses of Pegasus spyware that have undermined internationally-recognized human rights. This letter summarizes the main findings of our forthcoming research report concerning the use of this spyware in Mexico.

As a matter of best practice, we will publish any response to our findings that you would like to provide to us before November 26th, 2018 at 5:00 PM GMT+2 in its entirety alongside the report. Additionally, we have shared an embargoed copy of the report with media. We will share with them any response you provide prior to November 26th, 2018 at 5:00 PM GMT+2.

Our forthcoming report is part of a series of reports on the use of NSO Group's Pegasus spyware to target civil society activists in Mexico and elsewhere. In a series of seven prior reports we reported Pegasus infection attempts against [multiple journalists](#), [lawyers](#), [international investigators](#), [public health practitioners](#), [senior politicians](#), and [anti-corruption activists](#). In this latest report, we describe how - two days after the killing of Javier Valdez Cárdenas, who was the founder of *Río Doce* - *Río Doce*'s director and an editor began receiving infection attempts with NSO Group's Pegasus spyware. Several of the infection attempts purported to provide information about the Cárdenas killing. A suspected Mexican Pegasus operator had been publicly exposed for abusing the tool to target Mexican civil society months before, suggesting that NSO Group failed to take effective action to prevent their Mexican customers from continuing to abuse the spyware.



At Trinity College
1 Devonshire Place
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 3K7
T: 416.946.8900 F: 416.946.8915

At the Observatory
315 Bloor Street West
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 0A7
T: 416.946.8929 F: 416.946.8877

munkschool.utoronto.ca

At the Canadiana Gallery
14 Queen's Park Crescent West
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 3K9
T: 416.978.5120 F: 416.978.5079

In sum, the Citizen Lab findings concern a matter of significant public interest: they suggest the continued dissemination, deployment, and use of NSO Group's Pegasus spyware inconsistent with corporate social responsibility principles and international human rights law.

Sincerely,



Professor Ronald J. Deibert Professor Political Science Department Director, Citizen Lab at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto



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